

DETAILED ACTION

*Response to Amendment*

This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 11/24/2008.

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 11, 12 and 24 are independent claims. In the amendment filed 11/24/2008, Claims 1, 2, 7, 11, and 13 were amended. This action is made Final.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-7, 10-12, 14-16, 19 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hiroshi (JP4172496, English translation and figures).

Re claim 1, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device that displays moving picture icons, comprising: a screen displaying a moving picture icon which, continues to move while being selected (See Page 2, Lines 13-31, when the cursor is in the icon area it is interpreted to be selected, the icon moves by switching image data),

wherein the electronic apparatus acquires icon image information of said selected icon from a storage for icon image information, processes the information, and generates information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection including a plurality of different new icon image information (See Page 2, Lines 13-31, since the data is stored frame by frame, this data has to be retrieved and then processed in order to be displayed on the screen. Each time the icon image changes, it is interpreted to be a new icon since it was not there previously).

Re claim 2, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device that displays moving picture icons, which displays an icon on a screen, comprising:

a section for detecting a selection of an icon, which detects that the icon on said screen has been selected (see purpose where "detection region...cursor is judged to be in an icon region" for example);

a section for acquiring moving picture icon image information which acquires moving picture icon image information of said selected icon from a section for storing icon image information, processes the information, and generates information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection including a plurality of different new icon image information, in which the moving picture icon image information is related to the icon regarding which selection has been detected by said section for selecting and detecting an icon, and which continues to move while the process of said detection continues (See Page 2, Lines 13-31, since the data is stored frame by frame, this data has to be retrieved and then processed in order to be

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displayed on the screen. Each time the icon image changes, it is interpreted to be a new icon since it was not there previously); and

a section for displaying a moving picture icon image for displaying the moving icon image information acquired through the section for acquiring moving picture icon image information (dynamic display of icon as an animation for example).

Re claim 3, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device further comprising: a section for storing moving picture icon image information that relates to said moving picture icon image information to the relevant icon identification information and stores the resulting information (see constitution, animation display stored are displayed for example).

Re claim 4, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device, wherein a plurality of items of the moving picture icon image information is related to a single piece of icon identification information (anicon, animated icon with frame by frame showing, see purpose and constitution for example).

Re claim 5, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device, wherein said section for acquiring moving picture icon image information comprises, means for acquiring information (such as image detail for example) concerning a still image portion that acquires information concerning the still image portion forming a still image in said moving icon that continues to move, and means for acquiring information concerning the moving picture portion that acquires information concerning the moving picture portion that solely forms the moving picture in said moving icon that continues to move (see purpose and constitution of the abstract for example) .

Re claim 6, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device, wherein the information concerning the moving picture portion acquired by said means for acquiring information concerning a moving picture portion commonly relates to a plurality of icons (see figure 4 for example).

Re claim 7, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device, further comprising: a section for acquiring suspension information that acquires suspension information for suspending the aforementioned movement, even while said detection of said moving picture icon image information continues, wherein said section for displaying moving picture icon images suspends said movements when said section for acquiring suspension information obtains said suspension information (see constitution section "cursor has left the icon region...returned to a static image" for example) .

Re claim 10, Hiroshi discloses an electronic device according to any one of claims 1 to 4. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose in the English abstract wherein said electronic device is a cellular phone. Note that it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987).

Claim 11 is similar in scope to claim 2; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Re claim 12, Hiroshi discloses a mobile terminal device displaying an icon on a screen, comprising:

a section for storing icon image information that stores image information regarding the icon that should be displayed on said screen (image of animation display stored for example);

a section for selecting and detecting an icon so as to detect that the icon on the screen has been selected (detection means, icon region for example);

a section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection that acquires icon image information that corresponds to an icon regarding which selection is detected by said section for selecting and detecting an icon from said section for storing icon image information, processes the icon image information, and generates information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection that includes a plurality of different new items of icon image information (animation display stored are displayed, frame by frame means, dynamic display for example); and

a section for consecutively displaying icon images displayed at the time of selection that displays an icon image based on new icon image information included in information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection that is generated by said section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection (See Page 2, Lines 13-31, since the data is stored frame by frame, this data has to be retrieved and then processed in order to be displayed on the screen. Each time the icon image changes, it is interpreted to be a new icon since it was not there previously).

Re claim 14, Hiroshi discloses, wherein said section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, a means for partial processing that performs partial processing in regards to an icon regarding which selection has been detected by the section for selecting and detecting an icon (information is transmitted to display for example).

Re claim 15, Hiroshi discloses, further comprising: a section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection that acquires and processes icon image information that does not correspond to an icon regarding which selection has been detected by said section for selecting and detecting from said section for storing icon image information, wherein the section for generating information generates information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection that comprises a plurality of different new items of icon image information (frame by frame and figure 4 for example) .

Re claim 16, Hiroshi discloses, further comprising: a section for displaying background image information that displays the background image information in the form of an image that structures the background on said screen not displaying an icon, and a section for changing the display of background image information that changes the display of said section for displaying background image information if said section for selecting and detecting detects selection (changing background image, see figure 5 for example).

Re claim 19, Hiroshi discloses, comprising: a section for acquiring icon image information, wherein the icon image information acquired through said section for

acquiring icon image information is stored in said section for storing icon image information (image stored, image is information for example).

Re claim 24, Hiroshi discloses a method of operating a mobile terminal device that comprises a section for storing icon image information that stores icon image information that should be displayed on the screen, comprising:

selecting and detecting an icon so as to detect that an icon on the screen has been selected (icon region by a detection means for example);

generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection involving acquisition and processing of icon image information that corresponds to the icon whose selection is detected through the section for selecting and detecting an icon from the section for storing icon image information and information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises a plurality of different new items of icon image information is generated (see figure 4 and abstract for example); and

consecutively displaying icon image displayed at the time of selection whereby consecutive outputting takes place regarding a new icon image included among information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection that is generated through the step for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection (See Page 2, Lines 13-31, since the data is stored frame by frame, this data has to be retrieved and then processed in order to be displayed on the screen. Each time the icon image changes, it is interpreted to be a

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new icon since it was not there previously). It has been held that the functional "whereby" statement does not define any structure and accordingly can not serve to distinguish. *In re Mason*, 114 USPQ 127, 44 CCPA 937 (1957).

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8, 9, 13, 17, 18, 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiroshi.

Re claim 8, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claim 7 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said suspension information is obtained upon entering a power-saving mode. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said suspension information is obtained upon entering a power-saving mode, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19

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(BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 9, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claims 2-4 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein circulating-form moving picture icon image information concerns the movements of moving pictures based on the moving picture icon image information that moves for a prescribed time applies. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein circulating-form moving picture icon image information concerns the movements of moving pictures based on the moving picture icon image information that moves for a prescribed time applies, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly

Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 13, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claim 12 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said generation by said section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection is sequentially performed for each instance of display by said section for displaying icon images displayed at the time of selection, and said generated information is deleted after the end of displaying thereof. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said generation by said section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection is sequentially performed for each instance of display by said section for displaying icon images displayed at the time of selection, and said generated information is deleted after the end of displaying thereof, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509,

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1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 17, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claims 12 or 13 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for changing icon color information that changes a whole or a part of the icon color information, which is information relating to the color of an icon, among the icon image information corresponding to said icon regarding which selection has been detected. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for changing icon color information that changes a whole or a part of the icon color information, which is information relating to the color of an icon, among the icon image information corresponding to said icon regarding which selection has been detected, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or

apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 18, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claims 12 or 13 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for changing the icon luminance information that changes a whole or a part of the icon luminance information, which is information relating to icon luminance, among the icon image information that corresponds to the icon regarding which selection has been detected. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said section for generating information concerning the group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for changing the icon luminance information that changes a whole or a part of the icon luminance information, which is information relating to icon luminance, among

the icon image information that corresponds to the icon regarding which selection has been detected, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396).

Re claim 20, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claim s 2-4 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for extracting an item within an icon image that extracts a portion exhibiting a high degree of luminance in an icon image regarding which selection has been detected via the section for selecting and detecting an icon, and means for displaying a kirakira-mark, which displays a kirakira-mark in regards to the item within the icon image extracted by said means for extracting the item from within

the icon image. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for extracting an item within an icon image that extracts a portion exhibiting a high degree of luminance in an icon image regarding which selection has been detected via the section for selecting and detecting an icon, and means for displaying a kirakira-mark, which displays a kirakira-mark in regards to the item within the icon image extracted by said means for extracting the item from within the icon image, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 21, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claims 20 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein an indicator that operates in connection with transfer of kirakira that performs processes whereby a kirakira-mark displayed by said means for displaying a kirakira-mark is transferred from the icon regarding which selection has been detected most recently by the section for selecting and detecting an icon to the icon regarding which selection is currently being performed through the section for selecting and detecting an icon, following which such kirakira-mark is displayed. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have an indicator that operates in connection with transfer of kirakira that performs processes whereby a kirakira-mark displayed by said means for displaying a kirakira-mark is transferred from the icon regarding which selection has been detected most recently by the section for selecting and detecting an icon to the icon regarding which selection is currently being performed through the section for selecting and detecting an icon, following which such kirakira-mark is displayed, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements,

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and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 22, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claims 12 or 13 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for forming a circular ripple pattern that forms a circular ripple pattern in the icon image regarding which selection has been detected by said section for selecting and detecting an icon. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said section for generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection comprises, means for forming a circular ripple pattern that forms a circular ripple pattern in the icon image regarding which selection has been detected by said section for selecting and detecting an icon, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant

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claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

Re claim 23, Hiroshi substantially discloses an electronic device as set forth in claims 12 or 13 above. Hiroshi does not explicitly disclose wherein said mobile terminal device has telephone functions. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have it programmed to have wherein said mobile terminal device has telephone functions, since such a modification would have involved the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement. Where a claimed improvement on a device or apparatus is no more than "the simple substitution of one known element for another or the mere application of a known technique to a piece of prior art ready for improvement," the claim is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d 1509, 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR v. Teleflex, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1740, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007)). Accordingly Applicant claims a combination that only unites old elements with no change in the respective functions of those old elements, and the combination of those elements yields predictable results; absent evidence that the modifications necessary to effect the combination of elements is uniquely challenging or difficult for one of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is

unpatentable as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Ex Parte Smith, 83 USPQ.2d at 1518-19 (BPAI, 2007) (citing KSR, 127 S.Ct. at 1740, 82 USPQ2d at 1396.

*Response to Arguments*

Applicant's arguments filed 8/15/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regards to the Applicant's arguments that "Hiroshi fails to disclose generating information concerning a group of icon images displayed at the time of selection including a plurality of different new icon image information, as recited in claim 1," the Examiner respectfully disagrees. In Hiroshi the icon image data is stored frame by frame. This data has to be retrieved and then processed in order to be displayed on the screen. Each time the icon image changes, it is interpreted to be a new icon since it was not there previously. The Examiner suggests the Applicant clarify the claim language, specifically the processing and generating steps, in order to help expedite the prosecution process.

*Conclusion*

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

*Inquiry*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BORIS PESIN whose telephone number is (571)272-4070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Boris Pesin/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2174